

economy, strengthen our national security against the threats that energy dependence creates, and protect the environment.

The Department of Energy is the largest source of Federal funding for basic physical science research in the United States.

The bill increases funding for the Department's Office of Science to \$4.899 billion. This funding will support the good work undertaken at Argonne and Fermi National Laboratories in Illinois, as well as research at laboratories and universities across the Nation.

This bill provides \$5.125 billion for the Army Corps of Engineers.

The Corps provides quality, responsive engineering services to the country. The Corps provides planning, designing, building and operating water resources. It also designs and manages the construction of military facilities for the Army and Air Force.

Every year, the Corps carries out a variety of projects through its Civil Works Program, from environmental protection and restoration to controlling flood damage.

Traveling through my State of Illinois, the work of the Corps is evident. The best place to start is the shores of beautiful Lake Michigan.

For the past decade, the Corps has worked with the Chicago Park District to rebuild the deteriorating shoreline and protect millions of dollars of property, and water supplies.

The Corps has also been working in Chicago's western suburbs to address regular flooding in Des Plaines and surrounding communities. These flood control efforts will provide safety and peace of mind for thousands of property owners in affected areas.

On the western edge of the State is the mighty Mississippi River. The Rock Island and St. Louis Corps districts ensure a majority of the Illinois portion of the river is navigable. Barges travel the length of the Mississippi, which provide an important transportation option for our agricultural producers.

It is difficult to overstate the importance of the Corps when considering the disaster preparedness and response efforts during the historic floods of 2008. I joined sandbagging efforts in communities that were fighting rising floodwaters, and civilian and military Corps employees were providing supplies and guidance on how to prepare for the rising waters.

The Corps' mission didn't end with the flood they have worked with the State of Illinois and FEMA to help communities recover.

The Mississippi flows south to St. Louis and my birthplace, East St. Louis. These communities are protected by several levees built and maintained by the Corps of Engineers.

In central and southern Illinois, Lake Shelbyville and Carlyle and Rend Lakes are beautiful recreational areas maintained by the Corps.

In addition to providing flood control, these areas allow for boating,

camping and other activities for Illinoisans and others visiting my State. The communities around these lakes benefit as well the recreation areas boost the local economies.

In recent years, the Corps has taken a more active approach to environmental protection and restoration.

These efforts should be encouraged. The Federal Government needs to continue its investment in these areas.

Restoring wetlands can help reduce the incidence of flooding, and we need to understand that the development of acreage upstream can have significant negative impacts downstream.

The Corps' work in this area can be seen at Emiquon Refuge in Central Illinois. Since its establishment in 1993, the major habitat management efforts on Emiquon Refuge have been the restoration of the historic Illinois River floodplain and associated wildlife communities.

Through restoration of altered habitats and protection of existing areas, Emiquon Refuge will be managed to provide the diversity of native plant and animal communities found in this area prior to drainage and conversion to cropland.

I would like to thank Senator DORGAN and Senator BENNETT for their hard work on this bill. They had many competing interests to consider, but the bill we are considering today is balanced. I hope the Senate can complete work on the fiscal year 2010 Energy and Water appropriations bill in a timely manner.

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I support the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act for fiscal year 2010. This bill provides critical investments that will support the development of clean and alternative energy and utilization of domestic energy resources. Further, this legislation provides much needed resources to improve our Nation's water infrastructure.

This bill fosters American innovation in clean energy and energy efficiency. It supports worthy programs that further hydrogen, wind, hydropower, and solar technologies, as well as weatherization assistance for families and programs for building and industrial technologies. These programs better our Nation's security and economy by putting people to work advancing energy independence and sustainability.

I am very pleased that working with the senior Senator from Hawaii, we were able to include \$6 million in this legislation for the Hawaii Energy Sustainability Program at the University of Hawaii's Hawaii Natural Energy Institute. This funding will allow for the continuation of the program's important work supporting increased use of clean, safe sources of energy. We must continue to invest in the development and implementation of systems to allow for a transition away from foreign oil. As Hawaii relies on imported oil for about 90 percent of its energy needs, work to facilitate this transition is critical to the State's energy se-

curity. Moreover, the Hawaii Energy Sustainability Program will provide economic development benefits and will further research valuable in applications both in Hawaii and nationwide.

This bill will also help address water infrastructure needs around the country. Provisions contained within the bill permit the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to conduct essential navigation, flood control, and environmental restoration projects. Such projects are particularly important for Hawaii, given our remote geography and our interconnected and diverse ecosystems. I appreciate the inclusion of nearly \$14 million for Hawaii water development and infrastructure projects.

As Hawaii is susceptible to threats from severe weather and flooding, I was proud the bill contained specific provisions addressing this need. Working with Senator INOUE, \$1 million was included to assist the State of Hawaii and Pacific Territories with updating and preparing comprehensive flood plans. Also, much needed funding for the Ala Wai Canal and Waiakea-Palai Stream flood damage reduction projects is included in the legislation. On Oahu, accumulation of silt and debris from the Manoa, Palolo, and Makiki streams has significantly reduced the carrying capacity of the Ala Wai Canal. Funding of \$233,000 has been provided to complete necessary studies that will mitigate and reduce flooding threats to property and roads in the Waikiki and neighboring areas, while ensuring public safety and enhancing human and environmental health. Given the damage to roads, residences, bridges, drainage systems, and personal property over the years due to the flooding of Waiakea and Palai Streams, \$300,000 has been included to initiate the Preconstruction Engineering and Design phase needed to minimize flooding in the affected communities.

We know from experience that investment in wise stewardship and management at a watershed level will have a significant positive impact on numerous natural resources. For the island of Maui, I was involved in securing \$100,000 for the West Maui Watershed to initiate a study that may ultimately result in additional watershed improvements. A completed reconnaissance study for the area has already identified flood damage reduction, aquatic and marine ecosystem restoration, and shoreline protection projects that could be undertaken by the Corps of Engineers along with county and State agency partners.

Further, recognizing that shoreline erosion threatens upland development and coastal habitats along much of Hawaii's shoreline, I worked to include \$500,000 for a regional sediment management demonstration program to better understand the dynamics of complex coastal processes and promote the development of long-term strategies for sediment management. These